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8 **UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT**
9 **EASTERN DISTRICT OF CALIFORNIA**
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11 LEONARD A. SLAVEN,) Case No.: 1:20-cv-00606-AWI-JLT (HC)
12)
13 Petitioner,) ORDER DENYING MOTION TO AMEND AND
14) MOTION FOR APPOINTMENT OF COUNSEL
15 v.)
16 PATRICK COVELLO,) (Doc. 30)
17)
18 Respondent.)
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29 On May 21, 2021, Petitioner filed a motion to amend. (Doc. 30.) However, on April 28, 2021,
30 the Court issued findings and recommendations to grant Respondent's motion to dismiss and dismiss
31 the habeas corpus petition. (Doc. 29.) Moreover, the Court previously provided Petitioner the
32 opportunity to amend the petition. (See Docs. 20, 22.) Accordingly, the Court DENIES Petitioner's
33 motion to amend.

34 Petitioner also requests the appointment counsel. (Doc. 30.) There currently exists no absolute
35 right to appointment of counsel in habeas proceedings. See, e.g., Anderson v. Heinze, 258 F.2d 479,
36 481 (9th Cir. 1958); Mitchell v. Wyrick, 727 F.2d 773, 774 (8th Cir. 1984). However, Title 18 U.S.C.
37 § 3006A(a)(2)(B) authorizes the appointment of counsel at any stage of the case if "the interests of
38 justice so require." See Rule 8(c), Rules Governing Section 2254 Cases. In the present case, the Court
39 does not find that the interests of justice require the appointment of counsel at the present time.

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Accordingly, Petitioner’s request for appointment of counsel is DENIED.

IT IS SO ORDERED.

Dated: June 23, 2021

/s/ Jennifer L. Thurston
CHIEF UNITED STATES MAGISTRATE JUDGE